

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

JUNE 16, 2009

Under California law, public institutions of higher education may not charge tuition to in-state residents. However, the post 9/11 GI Bill calculates a veteran's educational benefits based on the public tuition and fees charged to an in-state resident. Thus, in California, veterans receive no tuition benefit and are often only allowed to use a fraction of their fee allotment at a private institution of higher education. In other words, the post 9/11 GI Bill unfairly denies educational benefits for California service members who have bravely served our country with honor.

Yesterday Congressman Howard "Buck" McKeon introduced an emergency bill, the Veterans Educational Equity Act, in response to this inequity. Under Congressman McKeon's legislation, California veterans will be able to use up to the full \$6,586.54 benefit to offset tuition and fees, similar to the benefits enjoyed by veterans in other states.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:**

1. Send a five-signature letter to the Los Angeles County Congressional Legislative delegation expressing the Board's full support of the Veterans Educational Equity Act; and
2. Send a five-signature letter to the U.S. House Education and Labor Committee and Armed Service Committee expressing the Board's full support of the Veterans Educational Equity Act.

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MDA:dm

MOTION

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RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

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